

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner Nwaonicha and his supervisory Examiner for the helpful discussion on March 20, 2009. Possible claim amendments for Claim 17 were discussed. In addition, it was pointed out that in Claim 25, N and R are properly defined in the claims. Upon further review of the claims the Examiners agreed that the outstanding rejections would be withdrawn.

Claim 17 has been amended as supported in the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 1, 2nd paragraph, at page 4, lines 22-24, at page 7, lines 18-19, at page 19, lines 31-34, at page 27, lines 12-14.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 17-20, 22-26 will now be active in this application.

Amended Claim 17 clearly sets forth method steps (reacting (i) an acid an acid....reacting said acid and an auxiliary base to form a salt of the auxiliary base; ... forming two immiscible liquid phases, ...separating said first phase from said second phase).

Further, the rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 should be withdrawn. Most notably, the same rejection was previously withdrawn by the Examiner. Compare the Office Actions dated October 25, 2007 and March 31, 2008 with the Office Action of September 30, 2008, where the same rejection had been withdrawn by the Examiner.

Moreover, Claim 25 is fully supported by the specification at page 43, line 9 to page 44, line 8.

Further, Claim 25 does define N and R in the last three lines:

“wherein **R**, R’, R” and R''' can be any organic radicals which may be identical or different, **N**, [N’], [N’'], [N’’’], [N’’’’] and [N’’’’’] are unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted amino groups which may be identical or different and Z can be any divalent bridge.”

A person of ordinary skill in the art would know what unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted amino groups are.

The specification also provides additional guidance, see for example the discussion starting at page 48, line 33 of the specification.

In view of the above, the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and 112, 2nd paragraph, should be withdrawn.

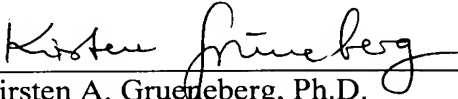
This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants’ below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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